



Senate Bill 43: Implementation Update

October 28, 2025



COUNTY OF SONOMA
**Human Services
Department**
Enrich and Uplift, Together.

Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act

California implemented the LPS Act in 1967 to:

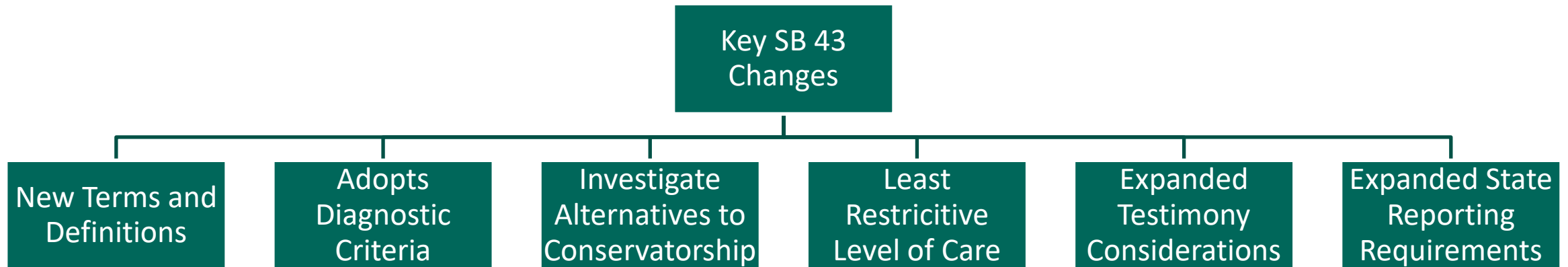
To end the inappropriate, indefinite, and involuntary commitment of persons with mental health disorders, developmental disabilities, and chronic alcoholism, and to eliminate legal disabilities.

Welfare & Institutions (W&I) Code § 5001



Senate Bill (SB) 43 Overview

SB 43 makes changes to the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act; state law that regulates the involuntary detention, treatment, and conservatorship of people with mental health conditions.



Key Terms Grave Disability:

Pre SB 43 Definition

- A condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing, or shelter.

New Definition (SB 43)

- A condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, **a severe substance use disorder, or a co-occurring mental health disorder and a severe substance use disorder**, is unable to provide for their basic personal needs for food, clothing, shelter, **personal safety, or necessary medical care.**

Key Terms: Continued

Severe Substance Use Disorder

- ❑ A diagnosed substance-related disorder that meets the diagnostic criteria of “severe” as defined in the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

Personal Safety

- ❑ The ability to survive safely in the community without involuntary detention or treatment.

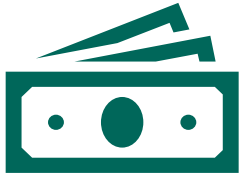
Necessary Medical Care

- ❑ Care that a licensed health care practitioner, while operating within the scope of their practice, determines to be necessary to prevent serious deterioration of an existing physical medical condition which, if left untreated, is likely to result in serious bodily injury.

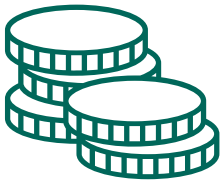
LPS General & Murphy Conservatee Placements



\$11,700,000: Approximate amount to place 197 conservatees in FY 24-25



\$150,000 - \$300,000: Annual cost to place a Murphy conservatee depending on type of placement and acuity level of the individual being placed



\$60,000: Average cost to place a General LPS conservatee

Murphy Conservatorships

- ❑ Appropriate when criminal defendants, as a result of mental illness, are deemed incompetent to participate in felony proceedings against them but require ongoing mental health treatment due to grave disability, dangerousness and for public safety.

Alameda County Social Services Agency

Murphy Conservatorships Options



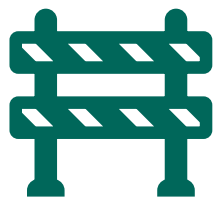
Department of State Hospitals: No Beds



Contracts: Expensive...Interested vendors are limited



Jail Behavioral Health Services: Expand jail services with a contract to provide more robust treatment in jail. Expensive

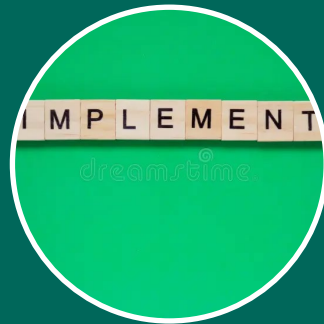


Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program: Funding for one (1) Mental Health Rehabilitation Center. Earliest will open is 2030

Limited County Data



**Delayed
Implementation**
Permitted until
1/1/2026



Early Implementers
Sacramento, San
Bernardino, San Diego,
San Francisco, San Luis
Obispo & Stanislaus
County

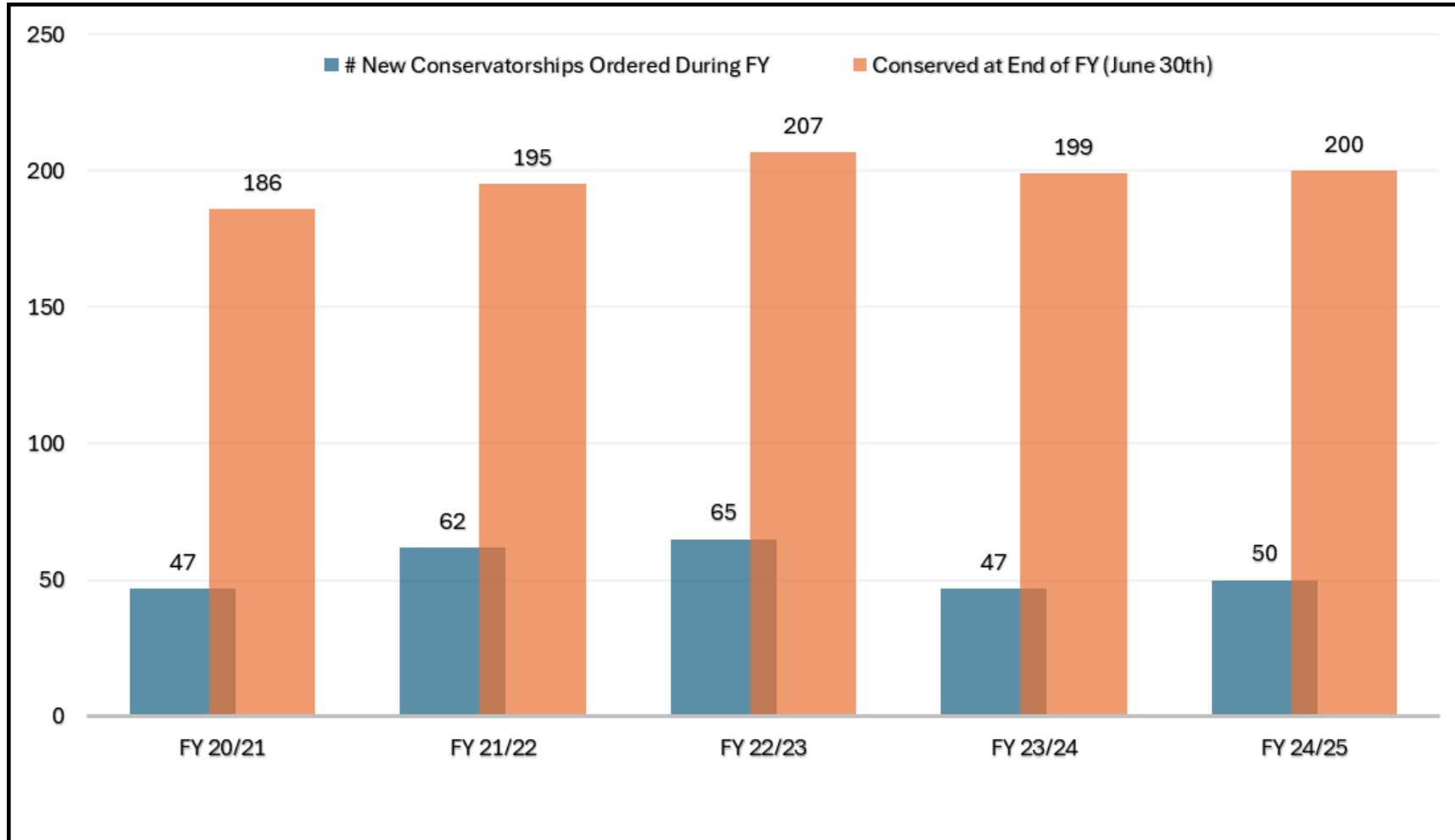


**San Luis Obispo
County**
• 25% increase in
conservatorships



San Francisco County
• 29% increase in
conservatorships

LPS Conservatorship 5-Year Snapshot



Staffing & Placement Needs

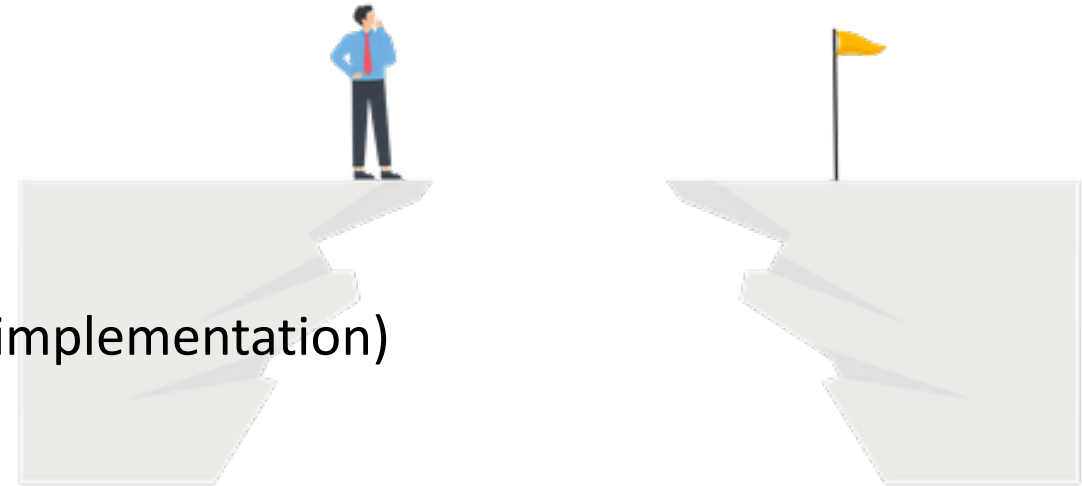
The LPS conservatee population has grown by 7% over the last 5 years without a corresponding staffing increase.

To address the existing **2025 deficits**

- HSD will require 2 FTEs
- DHS-BHD will require 2 FTEs.

To address the **2026 deficits** (Resulting from SB 43 implementation)

- DHS-BHD will require 2 FTEs.



Placements

- **\$1,400,000 to \$2,900,000:** Estimated amount to cover future placement needs for individuals conserved under the enhanced grave disability SB 43 criteria. Costs are subject to type of facility, length of stay, and treatment needs of the conserved individual.

Community Engagement and Training



Stakeholder meetings held/scheduled through Fall 2025 with community providers, community organizations, public health and safety groups, private hospitals, federally qualified health centers, and others.



Training: California Mental Health Services Authority Certification



Training: Patients' Rights Advocates

Next Steps

